For extractBinomial, I followed the extractMin pseudo code strictly. According to gdb, my program is segfaulting on the call of merge(b,y->children), not even reaching the merge function. Anyone else have this problem?

y->children doesn't exist, so my guess is that you're passing in a null value for y. That's really all we know without more information from gdb.

Set a breakpoint using gdb at that call to merge (syntax is break binomial.c:XXX). when you run the program and are at that breakpoint use the 'x' and 'print' commands to test the variables. It sound likely that if you do 'print y' or 'print y->children' it will tell you the value is zero.